

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the pending Office Action is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herein. Entry of the amendment is requested. An Advisory Action is respectfully requested, despite the fact that the Examiner did not include the provisions for an Advisory Action in the pending Office Action.

Rejections under Sec. 112

The Examiner rejected claims 8-9, 14-15 under Sec. 112, first paragraph. In response to the Examiner's comment, Applicant has amended independent claim 8 for clarification.

First, the Examiner queried how a memory can be operationally independent of the operation of an electronic appliance, when it is necessarily associated with the set of numeric keys. Applicant believes the Examiner is mistaken in presuming that the memory must be used to control an electronic appliance, simply because the memory also stores the key entries. For the sake of clarification, Applicant points out that just because the memory stores the numeric keys entered by the user does not mean that the memory must be used to control the electronic appliance. As claimed, the "control circuitry" is the unit that controls the electronic appliance, whereas the scratch pad memory can store the key entries by the user, without affecting the operation of the electronic appliance.

Such operational independence is not "new matter" and is fully described in the Specification. As described, on page 8, lines 21-29 of the Specification, the "scratch pad memory" stores numbers entered by the user punching the keys. Upon the user's command, such numerical entry is stored for display on the LCD of the URC. Obviously, storing the key entries in this situation does not affect the electronic appliance. The TV viewer has no reason to affect the TV program when the TV viewer only wishes to record the telephone number by using the numerical keys. The independence, which is selectably activated by the user, between the operation of the memory and the TV is thus quite obvious. Therefore, as disclosed in the Specification, the operation of the scratch pad memory, which can store the numerical entries without affecting the operation of the

electronic appliance, e.g. the TV, is selectably operationally independent of the operation of the TV. When a user intends to store a telephone number by storing it to the scratch pad memory, the user obviously does not intend for the TV's operation to be affected.

Applicant has amended claims 8 and 9 to clarify that the "memory" is the "scratch pad memory" described in the Specification, thus further obviating the "new matter" rejection.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner re-consider the Sec. 112 rejection of Claim 8-9, 14-15, since the amendment does not add new matter. Applicant thanks the Examiner for his patience and the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to discuss the above matter.

Rejection under Sec. 103

Claims 1-5, 11-13 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 USC Sec. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cullimore in view of Crowell. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection.

Cullimore discloses a remote control and signaling system, where a basic remote control is added with a transmitter and the apparatus controller is added with a receiver to eliminate the need to have a line of sight relationship between the remote control and apparatus controller. Cullimore does not disclose a Universal Remote Control, which is an "all-in-one" controller in a common housing. Cullimore's housing (94,96) as cited by the Examiner is a mounting assembly for multiple remote control systems (98, 100, 102). Cullimore does not disclose a single universal remote controller.

Crowell discloses a message delivery system that can be used independent or in association with other products. Crowell's system is a self-contained unit that includes its own power means (26) as well as other circuits. Crowell does not disclose being electronically integrated into another electronic system within the same housing, nor sharing the power supply with the electronic system into which it is integrated.

Further, there is no motivation or suggestion in Cullimore to modify or combine its remote control with Crowell's message delivery system. Cullimore's system tries to address the problem of not limiting its operation of the appliance to a line of sight

situation, by building a signaling system. It does not disclose any motivation to provide a recorder function for its users. Similarly, Crowell's system tries to provide a message delivery system which works independently or in association with other products. However, Crowell does not provide any suggestion or motivation to integrate, electronically, the recorder into an electronic device while sharing a power supply.

Even if Cullimore is combined with Crowell, the combined product still does not teach all the claim limitations of claim 1, as required for a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Because Crowell is not electronically integrated into the Cullimore, it would still require a separate battery.

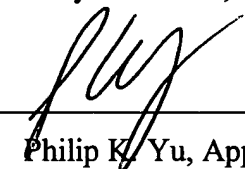
Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite that the power supply provides power to both the control circuitry and the digital voice recorder.

With respect to claims 2 and 11, which are dependent claims of claim 1, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner to the discussion above.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments to the claims and discussion in connection therewith, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of the claims be withdrawn and allowance granted. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to discuss any matter regarding the subject application.

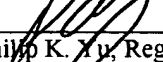
Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Philip K. Yu, Applicant
Reg. No. 35,742

20955 Pathfinder Road, Ste. 100
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
626-965-1202

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelop addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date:

6-28, 2004

By 
Philip K. Yu, Reg. No. 35,742